Met Office

November 2015

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1981-2010.

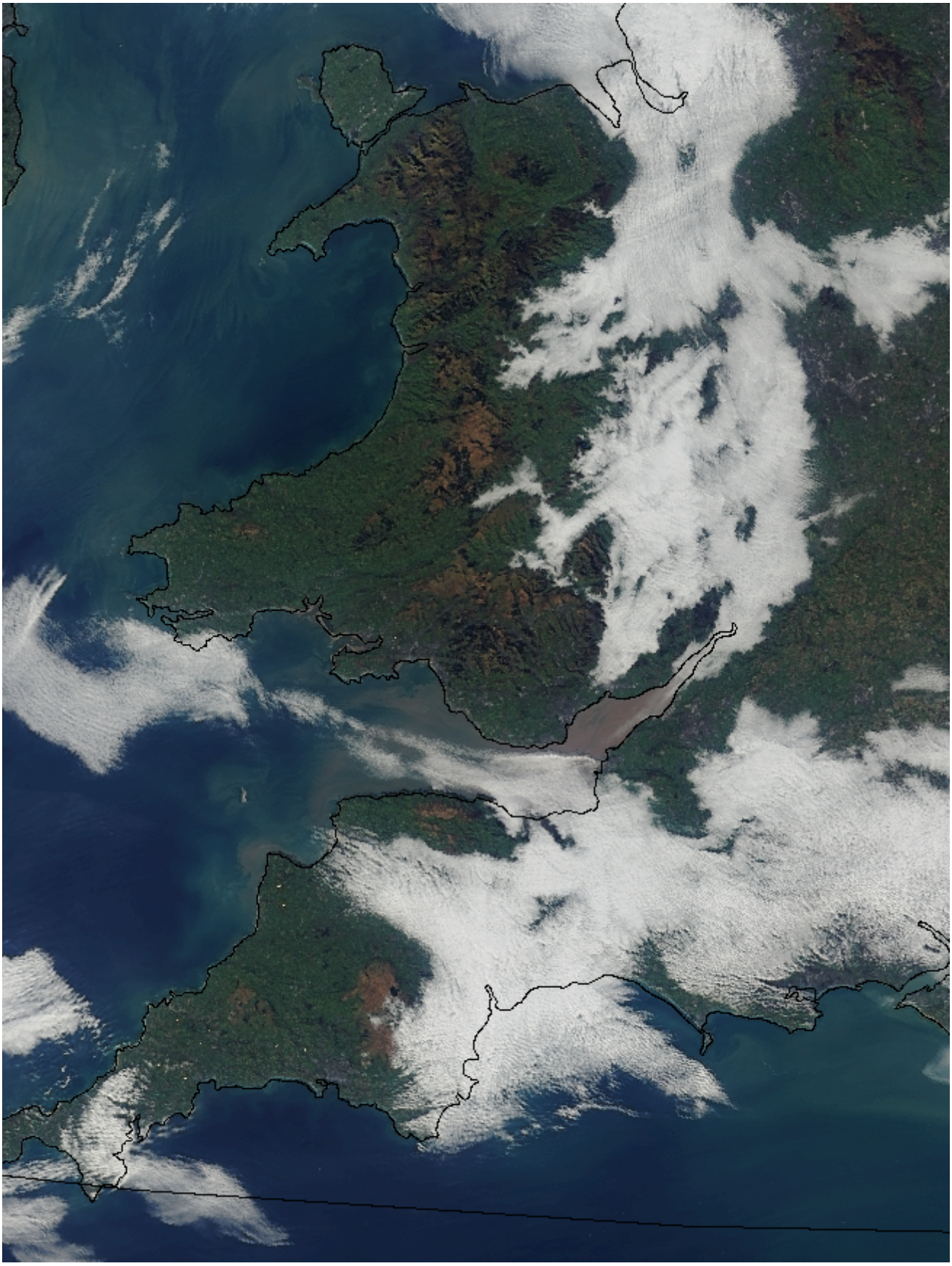
UK overview

November was a generally mild month with an often humid south-westerly flow bringing cloudy conditions. It was dry and exceptionally warm during the first few days, with record-breaking temperatures locally, but the rest of the month was unsettled and often windy, and the autumn storms 'Abigail', 'Barney' and 'Clodagh' all caused some disruption. There was a notable absence of frost apart from during a brief cold snap from the 21st to 23rd which brought some snow to northern and eastern Britain, especially on high ground, and there was also some snow in Scotland near the end of the month.

The UK mean temperature was 8.2 °C, which is 2.0 °C above the 1981-2010 long-term average, making it the third warmest November in a series from 1910 (behind 1994 and 2011). It was mildest relative to average in the south where the mean minimum temperature was about 3 °C above average. Much of south-west Scotland together with upland parts of north-west England and north Wales had more than 200% of the average rainfall, and it was wet too across Northern Ireland. However rainfall totals elsewhere were nearer normal. The UK overall had 143% of average rainfall. Many parts of the south and west had less than 50% of the normal sunshine amount, but sunshine was close to average in north-east Scotland. With just 62% of average sunshine, it was the dullest November in the UK series from 1929.

The UK monthly extremes were as follows: A maximum temperature of 22.4 °C was recorded at Trawsgoed (Ceredigion) on the 1st, a new UK record for November. A minimum temperature of -5.6 °C was recorded at Benson (Oxfordshire) on the 22nd. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 GMT on the 15th, 207.8 mm of rain fell at Seathwaite (Cumbria). A wind gust of 97 mph was recorded at High Bradfield (South Yorkshire) on the 29th. A snow depth of 9 cm was measured at Aviemore (Inverness-shire) on the 30th.

This satellite image of Wales and south-west England on 1 November shows low cloud across the Welsh Marches and southern England. With a light south-easterly flow it was a fine sunny day to the west of the high ground of Dartmoor, Exmoor and across much of Wales. Trawsgoed, Ceredigion recorded 22.4 °C, a new November UK temperature record, followed by 22.3 °C on 2 November. Copyright Met Office / NOAA.



Weather impacts

In contrast to the generally settled weather of September and October, November was notably unsettled, and the UK was affected by the season's first three named storms Abigail, Barney and Clodagh which brought some strong winds and heavy rain.

Fog was widespread on the first two days, and caused some disruption to air travel at London's airports on the 2nd.

On the 9th, localised flooding was reported on the M60 and M62 in Greater Manchester, and localised flooding and fallen trees affected transport in Cumbria and Snowdonia. Parts of south-west Scotland were affected by localised flooding on the 10th.

The first named storm, 'Abigail', caused widespread disruption on the 12th and into the 13th. Schools were closed across Shetland and the Western Isles on the 13th, and gusts of up to 84 mph resulted in some power cuts. Persistent rain on the 14th caused flooding incidents in parts of Wales and north-west England, with minor road closures and fallen trees reported across Cumbria and north Wales on the 15th, and flooding in parts of Northern Ireland and south-west Scotland.

Storm 'Barney' caused minor disruption on the 16th and 17th, with fallen trees and wind damage in parts of Wales and southern England, some further power cuts and reports of structural damage in the west Midlands.

Arctic air brought colder weather between the 21st and 23rd with some snow and ice occurring near west and east coasts, particularly high ground in the north of Scotland.

On the 28th and 29th, storm 'Clodagh' brought further wind and heavy rain, with disruption due to fallen trees over England, Wales and southern Scotland.

England diary of highlights

November began dry and exceptionally mild but often cloudy with widespread fog. The rest of the month was generally mild, dull and changeable with south-westerly winds. It was very windy at times with persistent rain across the Pennines and Cumbrian fells. There was a brief cold snap on the 20th to 23rd.

The mean temperature for November was 2.4 °C above the long-term average, making it the third warmest November in a series from 1910. It was a generally wet month with 134% of average rainfall; much of north-west England had more than twice the normal rainfall, but it was slightly drier than average in parts of the south. Sunshine was 57% of average, and it was the equal- dullest November since records began in 1929.

1st to 3rd:

The 1st was dry but with widespread fog. The fog cleared slowly in some areas but remained in much of the Thames Valley and Yorkshire all day causing travel disruption for many airports. Outside these areas it was mild with temperatures at Okehampton (Devon) reaching 20.5 °C. It was similar on the 2nd, but generally cloudier, with the fog reluctant to clear in most central and eastern areas, and temperatures again reached 20 °C in Cornwall. Any fog during the morning of the 3rd was localised; however, rain edged in to the south-west by midday and made slow progress through central areas during the afternoon.

4th to 11th:

It was dull and overcast for much of the day on the 4th, with rain for southern and eastern areas. After a bright start on the 5th, rain spread quickly into the south-west and progressed north and east during the afternoon. An unsettled day followed on the 6th, with outbreaks of rain for many areas during the morning and a more

organised band of rain spreading from the west during the afternoon. Overnight rain cleared slowly east during the morning of the 7th to leave a scattering of showers with the heaviest showers in the north-west and winds gusting over 50 mph in some exposed southern and central areas. The 8th was a dry but mostly cloudy day in the south-east, and another band of rain spread into western areas during the morning and spread north with Keswick (Cumbria) recording 52 mm. It remained unsettled on the 9th with rain in many western areas driven on by a fresh westerly wind, the heaviest again in Cumbria with Shap (Cumbria) recording 57 mm, but the east and south were generally dry. The 10th saw patchy rain in the far north and scattered showers in the south, although it remained very mild with temperatures in the mid to high teens in eastern areas. There was further patchy rain for many areas on the 11th with the heaviest and most frequent outbreaks in the west.

12th to 19th:

As storm Abigail edged in from the west during the 12th, winds increased with gusts in exposed western areas to over 50 mph, and rain spread slowly eastwards. A day of sunshine and widespread showers followed on the 13th, accompanied by a cooler, moderate north-west wind; the showers were heaviest during the morning, becoming lighter and more scattered during the afternoon. The 14th was another wet day with rain spreading in from the west during the morning; some places in North Yorkshire and Cumbria recorded over 60 mm. It was a blustery day on the 15th with the south-east seeing the best of any sunshine but the north-west had some heavy rain at times, and gusts of 58 mph at Shap (Cumbria) and Bingley (West Yorkshire). Any showers were mainly in the north and west on the 16th with the winds easing, and there were sunny spells in the east. The 17th saw storm Barney spread rain and strong winds from the west during the morning, clearing the east coast by late afternoon with gusts over 60 mph widely and 70 mph in more exposed areas. The 18th was another unsettled day with rain spreading from the west during the morning and strong winds gusting to 65 mph at Emley Moor (West Yorkshire). The winds eased somewhat on the 19th but rain affected most southern areas and scattered showers developed in the north.

20th to 25th:

The 20th was a day of sunshine and scattered showers, with the south-east remaining mainly dry, but it turned much colder in a north-west wind. A band of rain, sleet and snow moved southwards through eastern areas early on the 21st and a dry sunny cold day followed in most areas but there were frequent showers near the east coast, some of sleet and snow driven on by a raw northerly wind with gusts exceeding 60 mph. Showers were more widespread on the 22nd, especially in eastern and south-western coastal areas, mainly falling as rain although it remained cold. A mainly dry and bright morning followed on the 23rd after a widespread frost with temperatures falling to -5.5 °C at Benson (Oxfordshire), but a band of rain spread from the north-west during the afternoon, slowly edging south. There was another chilly start on the 24th but showers or longer spells of rain spread to most areas from the north-west during the morning. The 25th was overcast with patchy rain in western areas while the east remained mainly dry.

26th to 30th:

The 26th was mainly cloudy with only some light patchy rain for the Thames Valley area. A dry start followed on the 27th but rain and strong winds spread from the north-west during the afternoon, reaching the south-east by evening, with gusts over 50mph in exposed southern coastal areas. An unsettled day followed on the 28th with spells of rain for most areas and strong winds particularly in the west. The 29th saw storm Clodagh bring rain and strong winds from the west with High Bradfield (South Yorkshire) recording a gust of 97 mph. The 30th was another unsettled day with rain for many areas, particularly northern England, and winds gusting to 50 mph around exposed coasts.

Wales diary of highlights

November began dry and exceptionally mild, with some record-breaking temperatures. The rest of the month was mostly mild, changeable and cloudy, with spells of very wet and windy weather, but there was a brief cold

snap from the 20th to 23rd.

The mean temperature for November was 2.4 °C above the long-term average, the equal-second warmest November in the series. Rainfall was 152% of average, and it was particularly wet across Snowdonia. Sunshine was only 56% of average, making it the dullest November in the series.

1st to 6th:

There was a foggy start to the 1st, but the fog quickly cleared and it became sunny and very mild with temperatures over 20 °C in places, including 22.4 °C at Trawsgoed and 8.9 hours of sunshine at Aberporth (both Ceredigion). The 2nd was similar in central and eastern areas, with western parts exceeding 20 °C again, but it was cloudier and a lot cooler over southern and eastern areas. It was foggy in places again on the 3rd, clearing to leave a cloudy, cool day, with rain spreading from the south to all areas from early afternoon. There was widespread rain on the 4th, though with occasional brighter spells, and it stayed relatively mild. It turned increasingly wet on the 5th and 6th, culminating in 32.8 mm of rain at Cardiff Bute Park on the 6th.

7th to 11th:

Early rain on the 7th cleared later to leave some sunny spells but it became increasingly windy. More wind and rain to start on the 8th, with a gust of 64 mph reported at Aberdaron (Gwynedd); the rain cleared away during the morning but more rain spread in from early afternoon. This unsettled spell did not let up for the 9th, with 96.8 mm of rain reported at Capel Curig (Gwynedd) and gusts over 60 mph in places. It was drier on the 10th with light rain or showers for all areas, but still mild, and it was cloudy and windy, especially around the Lleyn Peninsula. More settled on the 11th but cooler with rain for some places, persistent and heavy over Snowdonia.

12th to 20th:

After a bright start on the 12th it became increasingly wet and windy as Storm Abigail passed to the north-west of the UK, with a highest gust speed of 76mph at Capel Curig. There was a mix of sunshine and showers on the 13th but it remained windy and became much cooler. The 14th was milder but strengthening winds and prolonged heavy rain gave rainfall totals between 45 and 70 mm in the north-west. It remained mild on the 15th but still very windy with showery rain, particularly in the west. It was drier on the 16th with occasional rain showers and brighter spells, but prolonged rain spread from the south-west in the evening, and it was cooler with westerly winds, and a recorded gust of 87 mph at Capel Curig. The 17th was mild, wet and very windy, with gusts generally over 50 mph and over 70 mph on the south coast. The weather was a little cooler but still very wet and windy over the whole county on the 18th, with morning rain clearing to frequent blustery showers in the afternoon and winds gusting over 50 mph widely. There was rain everywhere during the morning of the 19th, clearing away to blustery showers particularly over Snowdonia, and the wind still gusting to 50 mph around coasts. Not much change on the 20th either with gusty winds and blustery showers all day.

21st to 24th:

There was a clear, frosty start in places on the 21st, leading to a cold day with plenty of sunshine towards the east and wintry showers over northern and western coastal areas. Early rain and showers on the 22nd cleared southwards by midday, leading to a dry but mainly cloudy afternoon, and a clear frosty evening with mist in some places. A chilly but dry start to the 23rd, with temperatures at Sennybridge (Powys) falling to -4.5 °C, gave way to cloud and rain by evening. Widespread showers followed on the 24th, heavy in places in a brisk westerly wind.

25th to 30th:

It was mild and cloudy on the 25th with patchy rain in the south-west, but the rain was more showery in the north-east. Mostly drizzly with patchy rain in the west on the 26th, and very mild and cloudy, with 13.5 °C reached at Usk (Monmouthshire). It was cooler and cloudy on the 27th, turning very wet in the afternoon and early evening, followed by showers. Wet conditions cleared to leave a dry start to the 28th, but it soon became

very wet again everywhere, the rain becoming showery into the afternoon, and still fairly mild. It was still mild on the 29th but very wet and windy with gusts in excess of 65mph in places and 93 mph recorded at Capel Curig, although becoming drier into the evening. The 30th was another wet, windy and very mild day.

Scotland diary of highlights

November began dry, exceptionally mild, and sunny in the north and east. The rest of the month was changeable and wet with frequent gales, but there was a brief cold snap from the 20th to 22nd and snow also fell widely near the end of the month. It was a generally dull month except in the north-east.

The mean temperature for November was 1.2 °C above the long-term average. It was very wet in the south with 145% of average rainfall overall, making this the equal-third wettest November in the series. Sunshine was 74% of average, and it was particularly dull in the south-west but sunshine totals were near or above average in the north-east.

1st to 7th:

It started foggy over the south on the 1st and 2nd. The 1st was cloudy over western coasts but was dry, mild and sunny elsewhere with 8.3 hours of sunshine at Edinburgh Gogarbank. The 2nd was cloudy in the south, but it was sunny again in northern and eastern areas with 17.7 °C recorded at Braemar (Aberdeenshire). There was widespread and persistent fog to start the 3rd, and it was cloudy with rain or drizzle over western parts but mild and sunny in the north and east, with temperatures exceeding 17 °C and some local records being broken, including a maximum of 16.3 °C at Eskdalemuir (Dumfries-shire). The 4th was less mild, with cloud and rain invading from the south. It was increasingly wet on the 5th with widespread rain but there were brighter spells on the Moray Coast and it stayed mild. Rain followed by showers spread from the west on the 6th but it stayed very mild, with occasional bright spells for some parts in the afternoon. Early showers on the 7th gave way to brighter conditions in the north but it was very wet further south during the morning.

8th to 13th:

It was mild but windy on the 8th with gusts over 50mph in many places, and rain spread to all areas during the morning and showers later with Alltdearg House (Isle of Skye) recording 78.4mm. The same pattern persisted into the 9th with many places reporting over 35mm of rain and gusts in excess of 60mph. It was not quite so windy on the 10th but still mild and with showers or longer spells of rain for all areas, particularly the north-west Highlands and Borders. Still windy but cooler than of late on the 11th with rain over Border areas moving away during the morning and showers in the north-west replaced by a more organised band of rain later. It turned wet and windy on the 12th as storm Abigail tracked to the north-west with gust speeds widely in excess of 55-70 mph and peaking at 84 mph at South Uist and Sella Ness (Shetland). A very showery day followed on the 13th, and it remained windy as Abigail moved away north-eastwards leaving a much cooler feel, maximum temperatures widely failing to exceed 8 °C in contrast to recent days.

14th to 19th:

The weather was mixed during the 14th and 15th, but remained very windy throughout; whilst northern parts stayed cool and showery with brighter spells, southern parts experienced widespread heavy rain with 30 to 50 mm in many places. Sunshine and showers dominated on the 16th in a cooler airstream, but it stayed very windy and wet in the north-west Highlands particularly. It was windy everywhere again on the 17th, with winds strongest over the Northern Isles, and very wet south of the Central Belt but brighter and showery further north. The stormy weather continued into the 18th with rain for all areas clearing northwards replaced with frequent blustery showers and winds gusting over 50 mph, particularly over Border regions. There were further showers for western and northern areas on the 19th, these moving southwards during the day, but with drier, sunnier conditions for eastern coasts.

20th to 30th:

A cool, windy, showery day followed for all areas on the 20th, with an organised band of increasingly wintry showers moving south-eastwards during the afternoon and evening. There was a dry, frosty start for central areas on the 21st, and it was a cold day generally with showers of rain, sleet and snow over the Western Isles and near the east coast, and an organised band of rain, sleet and snow moved south-eastwards over all parts by evening. The following night had a minimum of -5.5 °C at Kinbrace (Sutherland), and the 22nd was quite cloudy with showers for the north-west Highlands and the east coast, but dry and sunny elsewhere. It was milder with widespread rain throughout the day on the 23rd which became showery in the evening. It turned cooler again on the 24th with sunshine and showers but staying drier in the east. Showers became less frequent on the 25th, with bright spells in the east but more cloud in the west. It turned very mild on the 26th with some rain in the west but stayed dry and bright in the east. A wet and windy day followed on the 27th with heavy rain turning to snow even on lower ground later. The 28th was significantly colder, very wet with snow over higher ground and windy with gusts widely over 50 mph. After a wet and windy start to the 29th, with sleet or snow over higher ground, rain was replaced by frequent blustery showers, falling as hail, sleet and snow even to lower levels. After a frosty start, it was a cold day generally on the 30th with showers falling as sleet and snow even to low levels, and more persistent rain over the Borders, again turning to sleet at low levels.

Northern Ireland diary of highlights

November began dry, sunny and very mild but it soon turned cloudy and increasingly unsettled. The rest of the month was changeable, wet and often very windy, with south-westerly winds, although there was a brief cold snap from the 20th to 22nd which brought some wintry showers, and there was snow on high ground near the end of the month.

The mean temperature for November was 1.5 °C above the long-term average. It was a wet month with 169% of average rainfall, the third wettest November in a series from 1910. Sunshine was only 70% of average, making it the dullest November since 2007.

1st to 7th:

After a foggy start in places on the 1st, it soon became dry, sunny and warm, with 8.4 hours of sunshine recorded at Aldergrove (County Antrim). The fog returned for the start of the 2nd and 3rd but persistent cloud and occasional light drizzle on both days resulted in lower daytime temperatures. It was increasingly cloudy with persistent rain throughout on the 4th and 5th. After another wet start, it turned drier during the 6th and remained remarkably mild with 16.3 °C recorded at Murlough (County Down). Overnight rain, heaviest in the south-east, cleared by mid-afternoon on the 7th, giving brighter spells, and it stayed mild.

8th to 13th:

It was mild, wet and windy to start the 8th, with gusts in excess of 45 mph mainly over coastal areas, becoming drier and brighter with showers from mid-afternoon. The 9th was similar, but even windier with gusts over 50 mph in places, and stayed cloudy with light rain or drizzle from late afternoon. The mild, wet and windy theme continued into the 10th with rain for all areas, gusts to 45 mph around coasts, and temperatures widely over 16 °C with 18.5 °C recorded at Murlough. It was cooler and less windy on the 11th, with morning rain clearing to leave a mixture of sunshine and showers. Increasingly wet with strong winds widely on the afternoon of the 12th with Storm Abigail tracking close to the north-west and a 59 mph gust recorded at Ballypatrick Forest (County Antrim). Remaining windy but feeling much cooler on the 13th with showers throughout the day.

14th to 19th:

Milder weather returned on the 14th but there was prolonged rain throughout, with totals widely between 25 and 45 mm. Mild again on the 15th with patchy rain or showers and increasingly windy. It turned cooler with a mix of sunshine and showers on the 16th, and it stayed windy with 69 mph gusts at Orlock Head (County

Down). Another wet and windy day followed on the 17th, with gusts up to 56 mph at Killowen (County Down), the rain becoming more showery in the afternoon. It was again wet and windy across the Province on the morning of the 18th, the wind gusting to over 50 mph in frequent, heavy, blustery showers. A breezy day followed with sunshine and showers on the 19th, the showers dying away into the evening.

20th to 24th:

The 20th was cool and windy, with gusts to 50mph around coasts, and saw a mixture of sunshine and showers, with sleet and snow became increasingly widespread. More of the same followed on the 21st but there was more cloud, and the showers were mostly confined to northern parts. Rain showers were quite widespread early on the 22nd, dying away by noon to leave a dry, bright and sunny afternoon and a clear frosty evening. -4.9 °C was recorded overnight at Katesbridge (County Down) but a milder day followed on the 23rd with rain in the morning and showers later. The 24th was cool and showery, with winds strengthening in the afternoon.

25th to 30th:

It turned mild on the 25th with early patchy rain and showers on northern coasts giving way to a dry evening. It was very mild again on the 26th with drizzle and low cloud predominating, and Derrylin (County Fermanagh) recorded 13.6 °C. A cooler, wet and windy day followed on the 27th with rain in the morning and wintry showers over higher ground in the north later. Similar conditions persisted on the 28th, very wet in the morning with some places recording over 25 mm of rain, although it turned more showery in the afternoon. Wet and very windy weather continued on the 29th, with prolonged rain or showers, falling as snow over higher ground, and winds gusting over 50 mph. The 30th started mostly cloudy and mild with outbreaks of rain, though it turned colder and precipitation turned wintry over higher ground, and it was a lot less windy.

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Met Office